Appl. No.: 09/783,250 Filed: February 14, 2001

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

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) Group Art Unit: 2192
) Examiner: Chuck O. Kendall
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REMARK FOR RECORD

In the present application, Applicant amended claims including claims 1, 2, 18, 19, 31 and 32 in a reply to a first Office action. Subsequently, a later Office action of December 7, 2004, indicated that claims 13, 29 and 42 were allowable if amended to incorporate all elements, steps and limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant consequently responsively amended claims including claims 13, 29 and 42 in the manner indicated by the Office action and canceled claims including claims 1, 2, 4, 18, 19, 21, 31, 32 and 34 from further consideration in the application. Applicant wishes to clarify that those claim amendments and cancellations were and are intended only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicant was not conceding and is not conceding that the canceled claims are unpatentable over the art cited by the Examiner, nor that the originally submitted claims, such as claims 1, 2, 18, 19, 31 and 32 prior to their amendment, are unpatentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Respectfully submitted.

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